

To: Daly, Eric[Daly.Eric@epa.gov]
Cc: Giardina, Paul[Giardina.Paul@epa.gov]; Povetko, Oleg[Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov]; Debonis, Michael[Debonis.Michael@epa.gov]
From: Koehler, Larainne
Sent: Mon 5/16/2016 9:45:00 PM
Subject: RE: Radon Questions

See below – let me know if you need anything more

L

Larainne Koehler

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Radon & Indoor Air information is available from the EPA website at www.epa.gov/iaq

From: Daly, Eric
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 8:27 AM
To: Koehler, Larainne <Koehler.Larainne@epa.gov>
Cc: Giardina, Paul <Giardina.Paul@epa.gov>; Povetko, Oleg <Povetko.Oleg@epa.gov>; Debonis, Michael <Debonis.Michael@epa.gov>
Subject: Radon Questions
Importance: High

Good Morning Larainne:

I have a few questions from the home owner near HTC.

Remember – once a mitigation system is installed, the radon coming into the house will be stopped or drastically reduced. What is in the house decays away radioactively and also from exchange with outdoor air. There is some radon everywhere, but the levels will be significantly lower. Typical reductions are quick and post-mitigation testing, to make sure the system is functioning, can start as soon as 24 hours after the system is installed.

•□□□□□□ The elevated radon that is in my basement, can that travel upstairs when the furnace is on since I have a forced air furnace ?

Often, a home with a forced air heating system will have radon levels that are similar throughout the house when the system is running. There may be leaks in the return ductwork that allows for radon laden basement air to get into the system and be circulated through the house.

•□□□□□□ Can that radon contaminate materials such as clothes and other belonging that are stored in the basement?

Contamination would not be a concern at these levels. 1 pico Curie is about 2.2 disintegrations per minute – that's measuring atoms of radon. And once the mitigation system is running, the radon levels will be reduced.

•□□□□□□ What about food? We have a freezer in the basement along with a pantry of dry goods

Food would not be an issue - see the question above. Also, when we look at radon in water, the primary risk is not ingestion, but radon being released into the air and becoming part of the inhalation risk.

Thanks

Regards,

Eric

"We must, indeed, all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately", Benjamin Franklin

Eric M. Daly

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